

Rest in Peace Comrade Paaghar, We are Marching On!



Comrade Paaghar, the founding leader of Afghanistan Revolutionary Organization (ARO), passed away on 13th July 2011 in Kabul after suffering cardiac arrest. He was 55.

Comrade Paaghar's death is a huge loss to ARO and the leftist revolutionary movement of Afghanistan. His role in promoting Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought will remain irreplaceable for the many years to come.

The entire revolutionary leftist shared ARO's sorrow for the loss of its founding leader. While the heart of comrade Paaghar stopped beating, the ARO members have sworn that they will walk his path until the last drop of their blood to lead the anti-imperialist struggle and the revolution of the oppressed and disposed masses to triumph.

Comrade Paaghar was a genuine revolutionary and a committed leader. Though only a few years have passed since the formation of ARO but his firm commitment, devotion and selflessness and great knowledge of Marxism enabled ARO to emerge as an effective Marxist-Leninist organization. Working as a clandestine organization since late 2006, ARO made remarkable achievements under the leadership of Comrade Paaghar in terms of strengthening its lines quantitatively and qualitatively. When it comes to spreading Marxist theories among the comrades and presenting Marxist analyses of the current situation and the tasks of Marxist-Leninists, ARO has done a lot more than any other leftist or pseudo-leftist organizations, of which some boast of having existed for over thirty years, but have in fact failed to convene a single congress. ARO did convene its founding congress only a year and a half after its initial formation.

ARO was formed as a result of a split in Afghanistan Liberation Organization (ALO) after ideological struggle against ALO's deviation from Marxism-Leninism, Mao Thought and its apparent rightist opportunism and the non-democratic leadership. All members of ALO central committee were selected as acting central committee members, but they have remained in their positions for nearly three decades.

Comrade Paaghar and other comrades knew that no matter how difficult of the undertaking was, remaining silent in the face of ALO deviations would be betrayal to Marxism and all those who devoted their lives to the Marxist cause in Afghanistan. While ALO and its affiliated groups repeated revolutionary rhetoric, they went to the point to accept medals and letters of appreciation from such notorious institutions as Amnesty International, whose job is to cover up the crimes committed by the imperialist war machinery, and parliaments of imperialist countries that are at the helm of occupation of Afghanistan. Criticizing ALO deviations and its activities as a servile NGO resulted in Comrade Paaghar being threatened to death and being cowardly labeled. But he was not deterred. He was well aware of the terrible consequences and the shame that such NGO-type activities brought on the revolutionary leftist movement.

Comrade Paaghar was exceptionally inexhaustible, straightforward, dedicated and caring. He respected the opinion of his comrades and welcomed disagreements to be openly debated. Comrade Paaghar led by example and as a disciplined member, wholeheartedly translated into action the decisions made by the organization and promoted the communist culture of criticism and self-criticism in the organization. Despite knowing the hardships of the path to revolution, he worked with such optimism that one would have thought it was only the day before the triumph of the revolution.

As a true leader, Comrade Paaghar always thought of continuous work of the organization and the growth of communist cadres to fill the vacuum when one comrade is fallen. He firmly believed in democratic centralism as a principle that embodies a dialectical unity and works as the only guarantee of the survival and growth of a Marxist-Leninist organization. Comrade Paaghar had deep respect for the great leaders of the proletariats, but he would often criticize them for being in the leadership till their death.

While our country has been invaded by a group of imperialist countries gathered in NATO and headed by the US imperialism, our organization believes that the struggle against the blood-thirsty imperialists that commit heinous crimes against our countrymen and millions of oppressed masses around the world, is the urgent task of all revolutionary organizations. ARO analyzed the nature and intentions of imperialists of occupying Afghanistan in the second issue of its political-theoretical publication Ba Paish (Forward) entitled, "They Are Only the Blood-Thirsty Imperialists, Not the International Community". The nearly 200-page document written mostly by Comrade Paaghar, underlined the barbaric nature of imperialism and the significance of decisive struggle against it. Comrade Paaghar being an informed, effective, creative and thoughtful leader not only stressed upon the quality improvement of the organization but its quantity improvement as well. He reached out to those individuals who once worked for Marxism and somehow had severed their ties with their relevant groups or organizations. Nonetheless, regarding the unity among the leftist elements and organizations in Afghanistan, Comrade Paaghar realized the crucial role that unity could play in strengthening the revolutionary leftist, however, he and ARO believed that the unity must come only as a result of unity of approaches and beliefs tested in the process of the revolutionary practice and struggle against the imperialist occupation, the puppet government and the oppression that the toiling masses suffer as a result of the rule of imperialism and the puppet government that it has installed. Comrade Paaghar's contribution to promoting Marxism-Leninism in Afghanistan has been invaluable. Comrade Paaghar was the main contributor to the booklet "The Class Analysis of the Afghan Society" which was a major work to analyze the class structure of the Afghan society and the forces of revolution. In addition to writing numerous articles to elevate the Marxist knowledge of comrades, Ba Paish was mostly the result of his work.

After Comrade Paaghar passed away, ARO's central committee held an ad hoc meeting to elect a new executive leader till the next congress is convened. While saluting the devotion of their great comrade, all participants reiterated their firm commitment to struggle for Marxist-Leninist cause and fight against the imperialist occupation of Afghanistan.

**Death to imperialism
Forward on the path of Socialism!**

Afghanistan Revolutionary Organization (ARO)
19th July 2011